

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 05828 280356Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 FAA-00

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R 271612Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4303

INFO FAA BRUSSELS

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 05828

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIUM ENACTS TOUGH LAW ON TAKING OF HOSTAGES

REF: A-54 OF MARCH 14, 1975

1. LAW AMENDING PENAL CODE TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VARIOUS OFFENSES INCLUDING TAKING OF HOSTAGES PASSED BELGIAN PARLIAMENT JUNE 26. WHILE THIS LAW (DETAILS OF WHICH CONTAINED IN REFAIR) IS DESIGNED TO COMBAT ORDINARY CRIMINAL ACTS, SOME ACTS OF TERRORISM INCLUDING HIGHJACKING WOULD BE PUNISHABLE UNDER IT. SECTION PERTAINING TO HOSTAGES (ARTICLE 347 BIS) SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. TAKING OF HOSTAGES IS PUNISHABLE BY LIFE IMPRISONMENT. TAKING OF HOSTAGES IS DEFINED AS ARREST DETENTION OR KIDNAPPING OF PERSONS IN EXCHANGE FOR EXECUTION OF AN ORDER OR CONDITION SUCH AS PREPARING OR AIDING EXECUTION OF A CRIME, FAVORING ESCAPE OR OBTAINING LIBERATION OR ASSURING IMPUNITY OF PERPETRATORS OR ACCOMPLICES OF A CRIME.

B. PENALTY WILL BE REDUCED TO 15 TO 20 YEARS OF HARD LABOR IF HOSTAGE IS VOLUNTARILY LIBERATED WITHOUT THE ORDER OR CONDITION HAVING BEEN CARRIED OUT.

C. DEATH PENALTY APPLIES IF HOSTAGE SUFFERS INCURABLE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 05828 280356Z

ILLNESS, PERMANENT INCAPACITY, SERIOUS MUTILATION OR DEATH OR

IF HOSTAGE HAS BEEN TORTURED.

2. OTHER SECTIONS OF THIS LAW APPLY TO ARMED ROBBERY, AS  
REPORTED REPAIR.

3. TEXT OF LAW WILL BE POUCHED WHEN PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL  
GAZETTE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAW, TERRORISTS, HOSTAGES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 75 A-54, 75 OF MARCH 14, 75 1975  
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**Review Date:** 31 MAR 2003  
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**TAGS:** PINS, BE  
**To:** STATE  
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